



National Aeronautics and
Space Administration
Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center
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Engineers Week

JSC employees volunteer to motivate students during National Engineers Week. Story on Page 3.



Cultural celebration

There's more news about the STS-1 Anniversary Party and its companion Russian Festival. Story on Page 4.

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Shuttle lands; Lucid stays

Atlantis crew-minus one-gets warm welcome home

By James Hartsfield

Atlantis and the STS-76 crew—minus one—landed at Edwards Air Force Base, Calif., at 7:29 a.m. CST Sunday, and the astronauts—except for astronaut Shannon Lucid who has begun an almost five-month stay on Mir—arrived back in Houston that afternoon to be greeted by a crowd of relatives, friends and coworkers.

"It is not often that if you come back short one crew member, they pat you on the back," Commander Kevin Chilton told the crowd. "Shannon is safely aboard Mir and doing a great job up there."

Atlantis performed the third shuttle docking with Mir, and Lucid's stay marks the beginning of a continual



presence in space for U.S. astronauts. In addition to Lucid, *Atlantis* dropped off 2,600 pounds of science and mission hardware; 600 pounds of food; 1,500 pounds of water; and 100 pounds of air. The shuttle brought back from the Mir 360 pounds of U.S. science equipment; 700 pounds of Russian hardware; and 68 pounds of European Space Agency science gear.

The five members of *Atlantis*' crew that returned to Ellington Field on Sunday each gave credit for the picture-perfect flight to exceptional teamwork both in space and on the ground.

"My proudest moments on this flight were when the team was pulling together and doing the hard things—

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JSC Photo by Benny Benavides

STS-76 Pilot Rick Searfoss gets a warm welcome Sunday from a young admirer at Ellington Field. The crew, minus now Cosmonaut Researcher Shannon Lucid, had made a successful landing earlier in the day.



JSC Photo by Nick Nelms

FAIR WARNING—JSC employees gather around as Houston Lighting & Power employees demonstrate the danger of high-voltage power lines at their special arc-truck. The demonstration was part of Tuesday's Electrical Safety Fair, where employees were invited to learn how to avoid being bitten by "silent rattlesnakes" like unsafe cords and power strips.

Endeavor rolls over Tuesday for stacking

By James Hartsfield

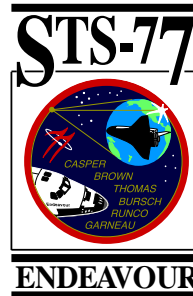
With *Atlantis* back on Earth, attention now focuses on *Endeavour*'s preparations for STS-77, a mission that will include numerous rendezvous operations with two different experiment satellites and is now planned for a mid-May launch.

Endeavour is currently in Kennedy Space Center's Bay 3 processing hangar, and is on track to be moved to the Vehicle Assembly Bldg. on Tuesday for attachment to the STS-77 solid rockets and fuel tank.

Work on *Endeavour* this week included closing out the engine compartment and crew cabin, cleaning and closing the payload bay doors, and performing inspections of the main engine igniter systems. Today, the newest shuttle is being weighed and its center of gravity determined

prior to moving it to the VAB.

Shuttle managers plan to meet May 9 for a final, thorough review of launch preparations, called the Flight Readiness Review, following which an official launch date will be set for STS-77.



Elsewhere, *Columbia* is in the Bay 2 processing hangar at KSC, being readied for a mid-June flight on STS-78 carrying the Life and Microgravity Science laboratory.

Current work on *Columbia* includes installation of the drag chute door and nose landing gear wheel and tire. Technicians are cleaning the payload bay in preparation for installation of the LMS-1 Spacelab module, and tests of the spacecraft's fuel cells are being performed.

Last week, a Tactical Air Navigation system on *Columbia* was removed. The plan is to replace it with a spare TACAN.

Employees may bring sons, daughters to work

Because of the tremendous response to last year's, "Take Your Daughter to Work" and "Bring Your Son to Work" programs, JSC will sponsor a "Bring Your Children to Work" program April 25.

JSC is combining the two popular programs this year in an effort to provide a quality program for both boys and girls.

"We believe that both boys and girls need to see and experience a 'real time' work environment with men and women working

together," said Lupita Armendariz from the Equal Opportunity Program Office. "All children will have an opportunity to see what Mom and Dad do at work."

As in previous years, JSC is opening participation to all civil servants and on-site or off-site contractor employees as their workloads permit and with supervisory approval. Contractors should contact their employer for additional information and program details.

Any employee may bring a maximum of one child between the ages of 9 and 15 to the Gilruth Center at 8 a.m. The children do not have to be badged individually, but need to be escorted at all times by his/her badged sponsors.

A program that will include a series of presentations will start promptly at 8:30 a.m. at the Gilruth Center.

Invited speakers including scientists, engineers and NASA astronauts will provide an

inside look at the professional opportunities in a wide range of disciplines in the space program. The presentations will conclude at 10:30 a.m. and each child may then spend the remainder of the day observing and sharing in his/her sponsor's normal business activities.

Employees wishing to volunteer or sponsor a child for the day or questions regarding Take Your Children to Work directed to Lupita Armendariz at x30604.

Garman new associate director, management

JSC Director George Abbey appointed Susan H. Garman associate director (management) on Monday.

In this role, Garman will assist the center director in the overall direction of management functions, including institutional resources, fiscal, budget, procurement, facilities and organizational design activities. In addition, she will continue to support the director in key

areas requiring center-level oversight, such as reimbursable agreements, loan agreements, memoranda of understanding which commit center resources, and visits of high-level United States and foreign dignitaries and government officials.

Garman began her career with the Federal Electric Corp., and from 1983 to 1987, she served as

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Sue Garman

Congress OK's temporary spending bill until April 24

Congress passed another continuing resolution last Friday to keep the federal government operating through April 24, and President Clinton signed the temporary spending measure.

The Senate approved the temporary spending bill by a vote of 64-24 after the House had approved it by voice vote and little debate. The President signed the measure Friday night.

Passage of the bill warded off a third governmentwide furlough,

which would have begun at midnight Friday. Both Senate and House negotiators said they were extremely close to a deal that would resolve differences over permanent appropriations for a number of departments and agencies.

Congress recessed for the Easter holiday without resolving the six-month budget stand-off. After returning from a two-week recess, Congress will have six legislative days to work this sticky issue before the funding again expires.